

¹⁶~~14~~. (Amended) The method of claim 1, the method further comprises:

A5 using an active vocabulary when performing speech recognition,

using a backup dictionary when [producing] identifying the corrected text, and

if the active vocabulary does not contain the corrected text, adding the corrected text to the active vocabulary.

REMARKS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application are requested. Claims 1-30 are pending, with claims 1 and 25 being independent.

The specification and claims 5 and 6 have been amended in response to the Examiner's objections. In addition, Fig. 15 has been amended to correct a clerical error. The remaining claim amendments are each supported in the specification at least at page 32, line 6 to page 33, line 5 and in Figs. 14 and 15. No new matter has been added.

Independent claim 1 recites a method of correcting incorrect text associated with recognition errors. For example, when the utterance "there are two kinds of legal kibitzers" is incorrectly recognized as "there are two kinds of legal cancers," the method may be used to correct the error. The method includes performing speech recognition on an utterance to produce a recognition result for that utterance. For example, speech

recognition may be performed on the utterance "make that kibitzers" to produce the words "make", "that", and "kibitzers." The method further includes identifying a correction command in the recognition result for the utterance. Thus, the words "make" and "that" may be identified as the command "Make That." Finally, the method includes identifying corrected text from a portion of the recognition result for the utterance. Thus, in this example, the word "kibitzers" may be identified as the corrected text.

Roberts displays a choice list of phrases corresponding to an utterance in a phrase active window. See Roberts at Figs. 27 and 29-31 and col. 27, line 65 to col. 28, line 5. The user may select the correct choice from the phrase active window. See Roberts at Figs. 27 and 28 and col. 28, line 61 to col. 29, line 3. If none of the choices in the phrase active window are correct, the user has two ways to obtain a correct phrase. See Roberts at col. 29, line 55 to col. 30, line 61. First, the user may enter all of the letters of the correct phrase into the phrase definition window by either typing them or speaking them with a communications alphabet. See Roberts at col. 29, lines 55-65. Second, the user may call the phrase edit routine. See Roberts at Fig. 26 and col. 30, lines 42-61. The user does so by issuing an "edit-choice" command to select a phrase displayed in the phrase active window. See Roberts at col. 21, line 66 - col. 22, line 4. Edit-choice commands include double-clicking the function keys that correspond to the displayed phrases in the phrase active window, or speaking the utterance, "edit_number,"

where "number" corresponds to the number of the function key.

Roberts' first correction mode does not use an utterance that includes a correction command and corrected text, since the utterance only includes the corrected spelling. Similarly, Roberts' second correction mode only includes the "edit-number" correction command in the utterance, and does not include corrected text. Therefore, Roberts does not describe or suggest identifying both a correction command and corrected text in an utterance, as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner refers to Fig. 18 and col. 25, lines 60ff of Roberts as describing the production of corrected text from a portion of the recognition result for the utterance. This passage describes having the user produce or select the corrected text by typing the letters of the phrase and double-clicking on the correct text from the choice list. This method of correcting text does not use an utterance that includes a correction command and corrected text, since the user types the letters into the phrase active window.

Independent claim 25 recites a method of recognizing a spelling of a word in computer-implemented speech recognition. The method includes performing speech recognition on an utterance to produce recognition results. The method further includes identifying a spelling command in the recognition results, with the spelling command indicating that a portion of the utterance includes a spelling, and producing the spelling by searching a dictionary using the recognition results.

Using the same example from above, the user could have corrected the incorrect text, "cancers," by saying, "spell that k i b i." In this case, the method identifies the words "spell" and "that" in the recognition result for the utterance as the spelling command "Spell That." The method then produces the spelling by searching a dictionary using the recognition results. Thus, the method would produce a list of words that begin with "k i b i" by searching a dictionary.

Roberts permits a user to issue letter commands if the system is in text mode. See Roberts at col. 19, lines 46-68. The letter commands either cause a letter to be added to a string of displayed letters or specify that the string of letters must be modified. The permitted letter commands include typing a letter key or saying "starts_comletter," where "comletter" corresponds to a letter from a communications alphabet. The system responds by switching to edit mode. In edit mode, the user may issue a delete command, a pick-choice command, or an edit-choice command. See Roberts at col. 14, line 64 to col. 15, line 8; col. 15, lines 27-40; and col. 19, line 67 to col. 20, line 19. Neither the letter commands nor the edit mode commands employ an utterance that includes a spelling command and a portion that may be used to search a dictionary to produce a spelling, as recited in claim 25. Accordingly, Roberts does not describe or suggest the subject matter of claim 25.

The Examiner refers to Fig. 2, steps 109 and 110; col. 20, lines 1-10; and col. 20, line 20 to col. 21, line 35 as identifying a spelling command in the recognition results, with

the spelling command indicating that a portion of the utterance includes a spelling, and producing the spelling by searching a dictionary using the recognition results. Steps 109 and 110 are not represented in Fig. 2, but are displayed in Fig. 1. Step 109 describes the letter command and step 110 describes the edit-choice command. Both of these commands have been discussed above. Col. 20, lines 1-10 of Roberts details an edit mode which enables the user to enter letter commands by either typing a letter key or speaking "comletter", where "comletter" corresponds to a letter from a communications alphabet. Col. 20, line 20 to col. 21, line 35 of Roberts details the step of searching a dictionary for words starting with the entered letters. However, the letter commands do not employ an utterance that includes a spelling command and a portion that may be used to search a dictionary to produce a spelling, as recited in claim 25.


For these reasons, Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 25. All other claims depend from claims 1 and 25 and are allowable for the reasons set forth above, and for containing allowable subject matter in their own right.

Please charge any additional fees, or make any credits,
to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

11/24/98



John F. Hayden
Reg. No. 37,640

Fish & Richardson P.C.
601 13th Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

Telephone: 202/783-5070
Facsimile: 202/783-2331
92607.W11

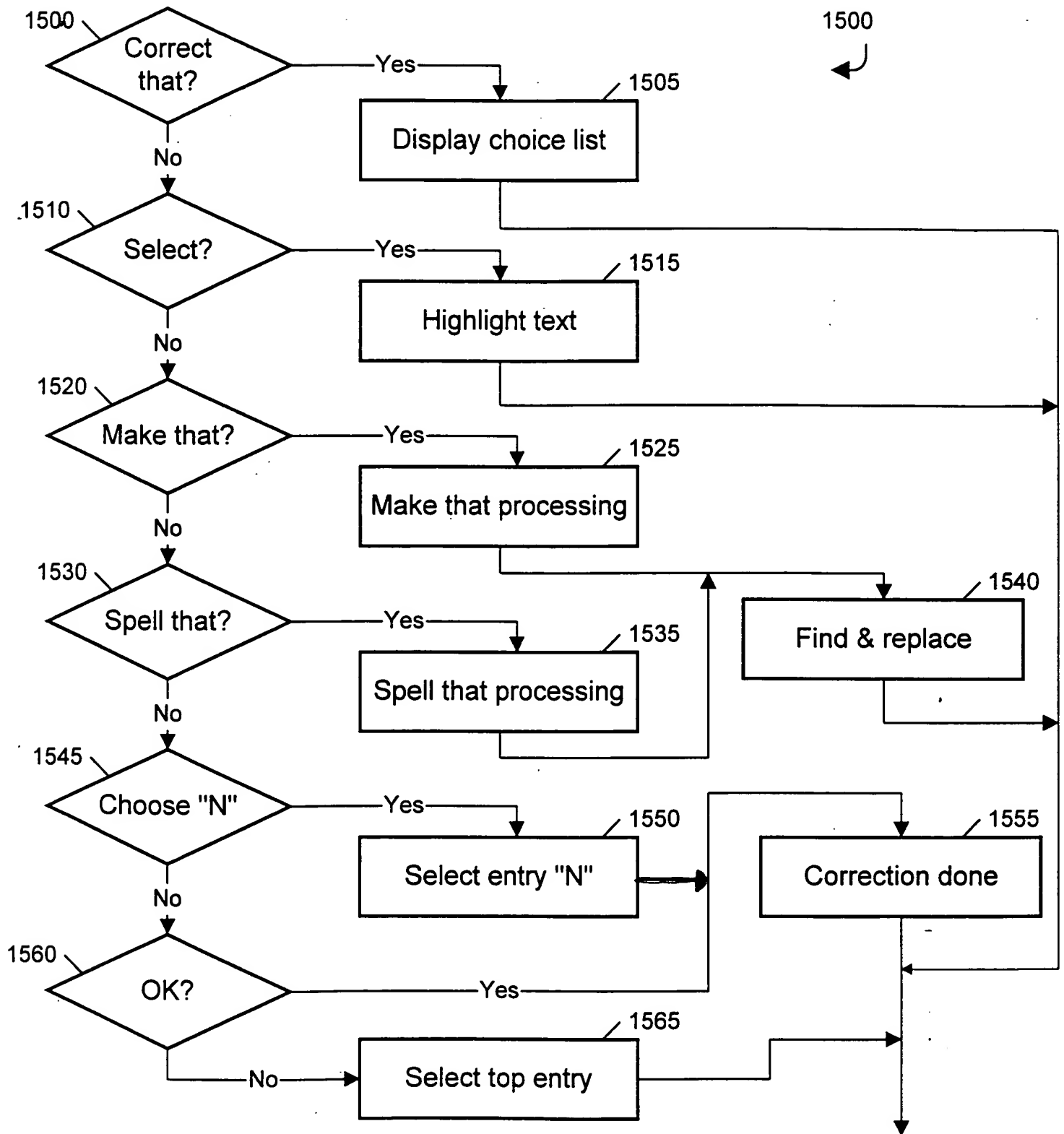


Fig. 15